

## A New *Diplotaxis* and A New Synonym (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae).

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### *Diplotaxis dahli* new species.

Medium sized, robust; head and pronotum black, elytra piceous; elytra sparsely clothed with long brown hair; head without occipital smooth space; labrum shallowly emarginate; clypeal angles not dentiform; tooth of claws post median in position, much shorter than superior portion of claw; striae punctures without hair; clypeal suture distinct.

Head with punctures on vertex separated by about their own widths, those on front large, coalescent and contiguous; front with shallow convex ridge above clypeal suture, anterior surface of ridge more sparsely punctate than front; clypeus with anterior angles evenly, obtusely rounded, anterior margin shallowly emarginate medially, side margins nearly straight to end of canthi, surface with large punctures contiguous, clypeal suture distinct except for small median portion; antennae ten-segmented; mentum abruptly cleft at anterior third, row of erect setae on ridge along summit of declivity.

Pronotum with side margins prominent; widest just behind middle; surface with large punctures separated by about one to one and one-half times their own widths, spaces between punctures finely, sparsely punctate.

Elytra with costae evident but not prominent; first intercostal space on disk with punctures separated by about twice their own widths, setigerous, spaces between punctures finely punctate.

Beneath sparsely clothed with long brown pile; surface densely punctate laterally, sparsely punctate medially; basal segment of hind tarsus more than twice as long as broad. Length 12 mm., width 6 mm.

*Holotype* in the writer's collection, taken seven miles west of Coalinga, Fresno County, CALIFORNIA, March 20, 1940, by R. G. Dahl, after whom the writer takes pleasure in naming the species. Two *paratopotypical* specimens deposited in Mr. Dahl's collection. All specimens were collected at night on *Juniperus californicus* Carr.

Both paratype specimens are somewhat smaller than the holotype and one is dark reddish-brown, due probably to its newly emerged condition when collected.

*Diplotaxis dahl*i is apparently most closely allied to *D. muricata* Schaeffer and *D. hispida* Fall of the previously described pilose species. It can, however, be distinguished from *D. muricata* by its larger size, more elongate clypeus, by having the anterior clypeal margin shallowly emarginate, by its smaller pronotal punctuation, more angulate pronotal margins, by its glabrous pronotal surface, by its longer elytral pile and shining appearance. From *D. hispida* it can be distinguished by its elongate clypeus which has the anterior margin shallowly emarginate, by the convexity on the front of the head, by the shining surface throughout and by having the elytral pile about three-fourths as long as the width of the scutellum. In general appearance *D. dahl*i closely resembles *D. fall*i Saylor and both species are collected on the same host at the same locality during the same season. It can, however, be distinguished from *D. fall*i by the presence of the elytral pile, the straight side clypeal margins, the densely punctate convexity on the front of the head, the more densely placed pronotal punctures, by its shining appearance and by its abruptly declivous mentum with setae along posterior margin of declivity.

DIPLOTAXIS CRIBRULOSA Le Conte.

*Diplotaxis cribrulosa* Le Conte, 1856, Jour. Acad. N. S. Phila., (2) 3:270.

*Diplotaxis popino* Casey, 1885, Contrib. to Desc. and System. Col. of N. Amer., pt. 2, p. 179. (New Synonym).

An examination of the types of these two forms has shown that they are conspecific. The differences given in Fall's revision do not set aside two distinct species as these characters (punctuation, clypeal angles, labrum, etc.) are extremely variable in this common species. All gradations between types are found in series from a single location.

There is, however a variation of this species in Arizona that may represent a subspecies. This is a large dark form. The writer has examined a series of forty-five specimens collected at Phoenix, Arizona (R. Flock) but was unable to find any structural difference that would separate it from the smaller specimens of *D. cribrulosa*. Additional data will probably clarify its position.